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On November 29, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869B-008600US

Client Ref. No.: HAL-137

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kenji Yamagami

Application No.: 09/618,202

Filed: July 18, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
ENCRYPTION AND DECRYPTION IN
REMOTE DATA STORAGE SYSTEMS

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 9713

Examiner: Brandon S. Hoffman

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2136

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed November 10, 2004 on the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.